

Politico's [Morning Money reported](#) on the announced trip by Chairman Towns and Ranking Member Issa to tour the Gulf Region affected by the oil spill.

EXCLUSIVE: BI-PARTISAN OVERSIGHT TRIP TO THE GULF – House Oversight and Government Reform committee Chairman Ed Towns of New York and Ranking Republican Darrell Issa of California are heading to Louisiana to tour the oil spill on Monday. It's a "fact-finding mission," a committee aide said. They'll tour affected areas, and will be briefed by Unified Command. Towns is particularly concerned about payments to those affected and whether BP and federal government have "adequate tools to contain the spill in a timely manner." The AP is reporting that BP's spill response plans are severely flawed"

The AP [reports](#) today that MMS approved a severely flawed regional spill plan by BP for the Gulf of Mexico and failed to verify that BP could respond to such a crisis.

"BP PLC's 582-page regional spill plan for the Gulf, and its 52-page, site-specific plan for the [Deepwater Horizon rig](#) are riddled with omissions and glaring errors, according to an Associated Press analysis that details how BP officials have pretty much been making it up as they go along. The lengthy plans approved by the federal government last year before BP drilled its ill-fated well vastly understate the dangers posed by an uncontrolled leak and vastly overstate the company's preparedness to deal with one."

"... BP's plans do not anticipate even the most obvious issues, and use mountains of words to dismiss problems that have proven overwhelming."

The committee is [currently investigating](#) this matter.